

**OBJECT ORIENTED FRAMEWORK MECHANISM AND METHOD FOR
PRODUCT CONFIGURATION SELECTION DETERMINATION**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

- An object oriented framework mechanism includes a platform independent
- 5 product configuration selection model that defines a hierarchy of information that may be presented to a user for product configuration selection determination. The framework mechanism defines logic that specifies at least one relationship between items in the hierarchy of information. The framework operates on data stored external to the framework mechanism, thereby achieving a separation between the logic in the
- 10 framework mechanism and the data upon which the logic in the framework mechanism operates. The framework mechanism is data driven, which means that adding data for a new product to the external data results in the framework mechanism autonomically adding the new product data to the hierarchy of information in the product configuration selection model.